

Sirs;

I am opposed to the petition, Docket No. 04-416, since it will effectively eliminate my choice of Internet Service Provider (ISP). Different providers offer different levels of service, and different degrees of choice with respect to acces, filtering, technical support, etc. The existence of a range of providers enables me to choose the service to meet my needs.

There is already disturbing concentration in content, with much of the public media concentrated in a few large corporations. The internet is now one of the few venues where a wide variety of information and opinion is readily available. Rendering control over individual access to the major communications providers risks further narrowing of the sources of information available to the public. It also removes competition from all but a few small markets, which, if history is any guide, will lead rapidly to oligopolistic practices in pricing and service provision for the vast majority of customers. This would seem to be exactly the opposite of the competition the FCC has, in the past, committed to foster.

Please reconsider this petition from the standpoint of individual choice, with regard to service, price, and access to content. Major backbone providers, such as Qwest, have no need of all 'last mile' revenues. While their desire to dominate this market is understandable, there is no compelling rationale to grant such domination, either directly, or by providing them an overwhelming commercial advantage, as this petition appears to do.

Respectfully,

Nicky. L. Sizemore
SFC, USA (Ret)